



2012 Commandant's Ball Frequently Asked Questions



Is the ball an official Coast Guard event?

Yes! The 2012 Commandant's Ball is a USCG MWR official event. The ball will take place on 3 NOV 12 at 1700.

Where is the ball?

The 2012 Commandant's Ball will be held at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center. The hotel is located at 5000 Seminary Road, near Van Dorn Street, and is conveniently close to both I-395 and Route 7. Please visit the Hilton Alexandria [website](#) for more information on the hotel and its location.

What time does the ball begin?

A reception will be held at the hotel beginning at 1700. The program will commence at 1800. Please be sure to arrive at the hotel prior to 1800.

What are my transportation options?

Shuttle service will be provided by the hotel in 15 minute intervals throughout the evening from the National Airport, Crystal City and King Street Metro stations. Please be sure to indicate on your RSVP form if you intend to take advantage of shuttle service. Please visit www.wmata.com for more information on Metro locations. Parking is also available for the evening at a cost of \$7.00 per vehicle. Because there are a limited number of spots available, please be sure to indicate on your RSVP form if you intend to utilize on-site parking.

Can I stay at the Hilton Alexandria?

Yes! Special room rates are available at \$89 for the night. To book, please call 703.845.1010 or 877.783.8258 and mention "Commandant's Ball" for the special group rate. Check-in time is 1500 and check-out time is 1200.

What is included in the price of my ticket?

The price of your ticket includes your admittance to the ball, dinner and dessert, entertainment throughout the evening, a 2012 Commandant's Ball keepsake and entry to several door prize drawings. Guests should be sure to indicate any applicable dietary restrictions on their RSVP form.

What is the uniform code for the event?

The uniform code for this event Dinner Dress Blue Jacket (DDBJ) for O-4 and above (optional for O-3 and below) and Dinner Dress Blue (DDB) for all others. All military members shall wear the prescribed uniform. Civilian guests should wear formal attire. Please see COMDTINST M1020.6G, or reference the attached uniform sheets for more detailed instructions on attire.

What is the alcohol policy?

- a. A cash bar will be available at the 2012 Commandant's Ball. The minimum drinking age in the state of Virginia is 21 and underage drinking is considered an alcohol incident. A close watch will be maintained on underage attendees. Those individuals suspected of being a minor will be required to show a picture ID. **NO MINOR WILL BE PERMITTED TO CONSUME ALCOHOL AT THIS EVENT.**
- b. Attendees may be refused purchase of alcohol at any time. If you do drink, for your own protection and that of others, please allow a sober family member or friend to drive you home. You may also seek out the assistance of a Ball volunteer, who can find a ride home for you, call a cab, or assist you to the Metro shuttle. Hotel rooms at the Hilton Alexandria are also available at a special rate.
- c. Violating current rules of conduct for Coast Guard personnel can result in severe penalties for alcohol abuse. Two alcohol incidents, including arrests for DWI in any jurisdiction, can be sufficient grounds to end the career of a Coast Guard member. The Coast Guard can also be held liable for injuries and damages caused by an intoxicated member if that member obtained alcohol at an officially recognized activity. For your own safety and that of your family, friends and shipmates, if you drink at the Ball, please do so in moderation.

For more information, please contact LCDR Sara DiLuna (202) 372-4006 or LCDR Leanne Lusk (202) 372-2078.



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Is childcare available?

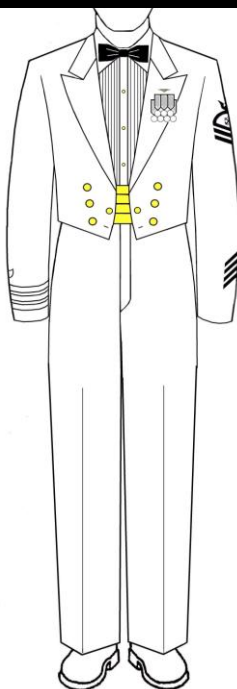
Yes! Childcare will be available, free of charge, to any attendee requiring it. This service will be provided by licensed childcare professionals from the CGHQ daycare center. Please ensure to indicate how many children you plan to bring and their ages on your RSVP form.

When or how do I get my ticket(s)?

Tickets will not be printed for this event. There will be an information table at the event where you can check what table you are assigned. An email will also be sent with your table # days prior to the Ball.

How do I know if I have won a door prize?

Names will be randomly drawn the morning of the event based on final guest list, and will be displayed during dinner. Winners can pick up prizes following the official program in the Dogwood Room using a photo ID.

3.B.2. Dinner Dress Blue Jacket

Men



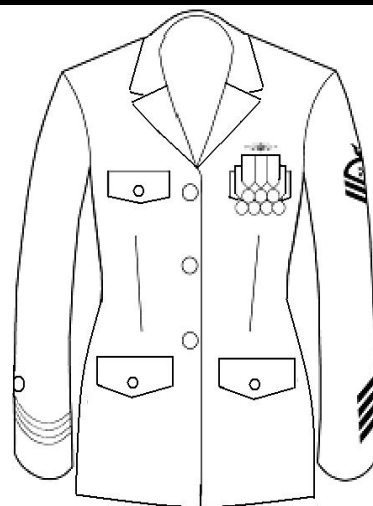
Women

Authorized Uniform Items	Additional Comments
Dinner Dress Blue Jacket	This jacket is the Navy Dinner Dress Blue Jacket that is Black in color.
Dress Coat Buttons	Substitute CG buttons for Navy buttons for both men and women.
Blue Evening Trousers	For men.
Blue Formal Skirt/Slacks	For women: skirt or slacks optional.
White Shirt	Men: soft pleated long sleeve or standard long sleeve optional. Women: soft pleated long sleeve.
Tie	Men: black bow tie. Women: black formal dress necktie.
Gold Cummerbund	Men and women.
Small Medals	Worn 3" below left lapel notch. Women: 1/3 of distance between shoulder & bottom hem of jacket. With Multiple medals, medals may overlap the lapel and extend onto the chest area. Backing shall be affixed through both lapel and jacket.
Miniature Qualification Insignia, Devices, and Small Identification Badges	See section 3.E.4 for proper wear instructions.
White Gloves	Worn only when wearing outerwear.
Black or White Suspenders	Optional for men.
Black Socks or Hosiery	Socks are worn with oxfords, hosiery with pumps or flats.
Black Oxford Shoes, Pumps or Flats	Men: Oxfords. Optional synthetic high-gloss. Women: Flats or pumps are worn with the dress slacks; pumps are mandatory with the formal dress skirt. Optional synthetic high-gloss.

Authorized Uniform Items	Additional Comments
Head Gear	Combination cap for men worn only when wearing outerwear.
Occasions for Wear	Cold weather - official evening functions when civilians wear black tie with tuxedos and almost any formal event such as formal dances, formal wedding, theater, opera, receptions, etc. Prescribed for O-4 and above, MCPOCG, and Gold Badge CMCs. Optional for O-3 and below.

3.B.4. Dinner Dress Blue

Men



Women

Authorized Uniform Items	Additional Comments
SDB Coat	
Long Trousers	Blue Dress Trousers
Skirt	Optional for women.
White Shirt	Long or short sleeve.
Shoulder boards/Collar Insignia	None.
Tie	Men: black bow tie. Women: black tab tie.
Small Medals	Worn over left pocket.
Miniature Qualification Insignia	See section 3.E.4 for proper wear instructions.
Miniature Devices	See section 3.E.4 for proper wear instructions.
Small Identification Badges	See section 3.E.4 for proper wear instructions.
White Gloves	Not required for E-9 and below. At prescribing officer's discretion for CWO2 and above.
Black Socks or Hosiery	Socks are worn with oxfords for men or women. Hosiery may be worn with oxfords, pumps, or flats for women.
Black Oxford Shoes, Pumps, or Flats	Oxfords, pumps, or flats are worn with the trousers; pumps are mandatory with the skirt. Optional synthetic high-gloss.
Belt with Buckle	Standard 1 ¼ inch black web belt with brass buckle. 1 ¼ inch nylon belt is optional.
Head Gear	Combination cap.
Occasions for Wear	Cold weather - Official functions where civilians wear black tie such as dinners, dances, receptions, weddings, ceremonies, etc. (Not as formal as Formal Evening Dress or Dinner Dress Jackets.) All personnel.